

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-10 ACDA-05

AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07 FEAE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 FRB-01

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R 211150Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1468

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEEMBASSY TEHRAN

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FROM EMBASSY DOHA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, QA

SUBJECT: AMIR OF QATAR SPEAKS ON STATE OF NATION

1. ON NOV 18 AMIR OF QATAR, SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI, DELIVERED ANNUAL SPEECH ON STATE OF NATION. OCCASION WAS OPENING OF THIRD SESSION OF GOQ'S CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL), WHICH IS REGIME'S ONLY NOD TOWARD REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY AND IS LARGELY NON-FUNCTIONING BODY. SPEECH COVERED LIVE BY QATAR TV, AND IN ADDITION TO COUNCIL MEMBERS, CABINET, DIPLOMATIC CORPS, SENIOR GOQ OFFICIALS AND OTHER NOTABLES PRESENT.

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2. ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, KHALIFA REFERRED IN NON-POLEMIC FASHION TO ARAB SUCCESS IN OCTOBER 1973 WAR, STRESSED CONTINUING NEED FOR ARAB SOLIDARITY AND EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR RESTORATION OF OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES AND PALESTINIAN CAUSE. KHALIFA PLEDGED TO WORK FOR STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS WITH ALL PEACE-LOVING COUNTRIES AND THAT QATAR WOULD CONTRIBUTE WITHIN ITS MEANS TO INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND WORLD PROSPERITY.

3. MAJOR PART OF BRIEF 20-MINUTE SPEECH DEVOTED TO INTERNAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. KHALIFA NOTED THAT DURING PAST YEAR, THROUGH 60 PER CENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QATAR NATIONAL PETROLEUM AUTHORITY, GOQ HAD INSURED NATIONAL CONTROL OVER ITS TWO PRINCIPAL RESOURCES, OIL AND GAS. HE THEN COMMENTED ON NEED FOR UTILIZATION OF OIL REVENUES TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC BASE ON WHICH QATAR CAN LIVE PRESPEROUSLY AFTER EXHAUSTION OF HYDROCARBON RESOURCES. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE MENTIONED GOQ'S ON-GOING INDUSTRIALIZATION PROJECTS, SUCH AS STEEL AND PETROCHEMICALS, AS WELL AS AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

4. KHALIFA DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF SPEECH TO HUMAN RESOURCES, ENCOURAGING QATARIS TO ACQUIRE THE TRAINING AND EXPERTISE NECESSARY FOR THEM TO PARTICPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRY.

GODLEY

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